

ATTACHMENT 3

[The following public comment on proposed Rule of Court 9.4 was received on October 8, 2013.]

Beverly Hills Bar Association

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October 8, 2013

State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Attorney's Oath

To Whom It May Concern

The Beverly Hills Bar Association has almost six thousand members who practice all aspects of law primarily, though not exclusively, in the western portion of Los Angeles County.

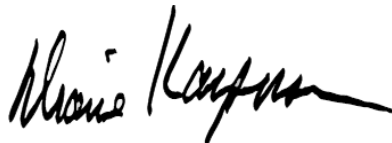
The Beverly Hills Bar Association ("BHBA") has reviewed proposed new Rule of Court, Rule 9.4, which adds an aspirational provision concerning civility to the attorney oath. The BHBA supports the spirit of the statement that each lawyer will "will strive to conduct [himself or herself] at all times with dignity, courtesy and integrity."

The BHBA has observed that there are often problems with civility between lawyers in a host of different ways and in a myriad of situations. As the law is a profession, the hope that each lawyer will act with dignity, courtesy and integrity is important. Moreover, putting this statement in the attorney oath will impress the importance of civility from the day of admission. The BHBA's only concern about the proposal was related to whether a violation of this particular provision of the oath could subject an attorney to discipline as there is always a balance between courtesy and zealous advocacy. As the proposal expressly states it is aspirational and not subject to discipline, the BHBA supports the inclusion of the oath.

The BHBA urges that the California Bar act as a leader in promoting civility, integrity, respect and courtesy as essential parts of the lawyer's function.

If you have any questions, please call me.

Very truly yours,



Diane Karpman
President
Beverly Hills Bar Association